

Atty. Docket No. HOL01 P-375A
Express Mail No. EV573205595US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : James H. Flater et al.

For : LIGHTWEIGHT FIFTH WHEEL HITCH ASSEMBLY

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 CFR §§1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the date of entry of the national stage in an international application.

As the Office has waived the requirement under 37 CFR §1.98(a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent, copies of the listed U.S. patents are not included with the submission of attached Form PTO 1449. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

The listed documents were cited in the International Search Report which issued from a corresponding International Patent Application. A copy of the International Search Report is included herewith. The International Search Report is not a reference, and Applicants do not necessarily subscribe to any of the statements contained therein.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If it should be determined that any of the listed documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.


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Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 16-2463.

Respectfully submitted,

4-27-05
Date



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| <p>FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (Rev. 2-32) PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Use several sheets if necessary)</p> | <p>ATTY. DOCKET NO. HOL01 P-375A</p> | <p>SERIAL NO. 10/532899</p> |
| <p>APPLICANT(S) James H. Flater et al.</p> | | |
| <p>FILING DATE</p> | | <p>GROUP</p> |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUB- CLASS | FILING DATE IF APPRO- PRIATE |
|---------------------|--|-----------------|------------|----------------|-------|---------------|---------------------------------------|
| | | 4 8 7 1 1 8 2 | 10/03/1989 | Altherr et al. | | | |
| | | 4 6 5 9 1 0 1 | 04/21/1987 | Buckley | | | |
| | | 3 8 4 4 5 8 4 | 10/29/1974 | Fontaine | | | |
| | | 3 8 2 7 7 0 9 | 08/06/1974 | Madura et al. | | | |
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUB- CLASS | TRANSLA- TION | |
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OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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| EXAMINER | DATE CONSIDERED |
| <p>EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.</p> | |